

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A paperboard carton for articles arranged in an end-on-end relationship in at least two layers, the carton comprising:

six sides, the six sides including a first side disposed between a second side and a third side, the first side being perpendicular a fourth side, the second side, and the third side, the second side and the third side being parallel, and a divider pad provided between the adjacent end-on-end layers of articles,

a removable portion that defines an opening in the first side for article removal,
~~the first side including a stop wall, the stop wall including a hinged flap adjacent the~~
removable portion defined at least partially by a first cut and a second cut ~~two cuts~~ extending
from the removable portion, the first cut having a first end proximate the removable portion
and a second end distal the removable portion, the second cut having a first end proximate
the removable portion and second end distal the removable portion, the second end of the
first cut and the second end of the second cut ~~to respective cut ends that are~~ intersected by
respective ~~transverse~~ lines that prevent the first cut and the second cut ~~cuts~~ from extending
beyond their intended length,

wherein the hinged flap, when engaged, enlarges the opening to create an enlarged
opening, the enlarged opening enabling easier container removal from the carton than the
opening alone.

2. (Previously Presented) The carton of claim 1 wherein the divider pad is secured to the inside of the carton.

3. (Previously Presented) The carton of claim 1 wherein the removable portion extends into both the second and the third sides.

4. (Previously Presented) The carton of claim 1 wherein the divider pad has a fold down gluing panel.

5. (Previously Presented) The carton of claim 1 wherein when the opening is created, all of the containers in the carton are prevented from rolling out.

6. (Currently Amended) The carton of claim 1 wherein the first cut and the second cut are at least one flexible portion includes two aligned cuts, and the at least one flexible portion is pivoted between two cuts to allow the hinged flap to be pivoted therebetween.

7. - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The carton of claim 1 wherein the six sides are arranged substantially rectangular.

10. - 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A blank capable of being formed into a paperboard carton for articles arranged in an end-on-end relationship in at least two layers, the blank having six sides, the six sides including a first side disposed between a second side and a third side, the first side being perpendicular a fourth side, the second side, and the third side, the second side and the third side being parallel, and a divider pad provided between the adjacent end-on-end layers of articles a removable portion that defines an opening in the first side for article removal, ~~the first side including a step wall, the step wall including a hinged flap adjacent the removable portion defined at least partially by a first cut and a second cut two cuts extending from the removable portion, the first cut having a first end proximate the removable portion and a second end distal the removable portion, the second cut having a first end proximate the removable portion and second end distal the removable portion, the second end of the first cut and the second end of the second cut to respective cut ends that are~~ intersected by respective ~~transverse~~ lines that prevent the ~~first cut and the second cut cuts~~ from extending beyond their intended length, wherein the hinged flap, when engaged, enlarges the opening to create an enlarged opening, the enlarged opening enabling easier container removal from the carton than the opening alone.

14. (Previously Presented) The blank of claim 13 wherein the divider pad is secured to the inside of the carton.

15. (Previously Presented) The blank of claim 13 wherein the removable portion extends into both the second and the third sides.

16. (Previously Presented) The blank of claim 13 wherein the divider pad has a fold down gluing panel.

17. (Previously Presented) The blank of claim 13 wherein when the opening is created, all of the containers in the carton are prevented from rolling out.

18. (Currently Amended) The blank of claim 13 wherein the six sides can be arranged to be substantially rectangular.

19. (Currently Amended) The blank of claim 13 wherein the first cut and the second cut can be at least one flexible portion includes two aligned cuts, and the at least one flexible portion is pivoted between two cuts to allow the hinged flap to be pivoted therebetween.

20. - 59. (Canceled)